

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00
PM-05 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02
SP-02 SS-15 ICA-20 ARA-14 EA-12 ACDA-12 OMB-01
TRSE-00 /150 W
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P 222234Z APR 78
FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0925
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAKAR
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV PRIORITY

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 USUN NEW YORK 01623

E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: PORG, MARR, UNGA, LE, IS
SUBJECT: SOUTH LEBANON: U.S. STATEMENT IN SPECIAL
GA PLENARY ON UNIFIL FINANCING

1. AMBASSADOR YOUNG DELIVERED U.S. STATEMENT TO
EIGHTH SPECIAL SESSION ON UNIFIL FINANCING EARLY
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EVENING ON APRIL 21.

2. TEXT OF STATEMENT FOLLOWS: BEGIN TEXT
ONE MONTH HAS NOW PASSED SINCE THE SECURITY COUNCIL
ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS 425 AND 426 WITH THE OBJECTIVE OF
RESTORING PEACE AND SECURITY TO LEBANON AT A CRITICAL
MOMENT IN ITS HISTORY. AN EXTRA-ORDINARY AMOUNT OF AC-

TIVITY HAS OCCURRED SINCE THEN, WITH A LARGE NUMBER OF ACTORS TAKING PART, ALL OF IT DIRECTED TO ESTABLISHING CONDITIONS THAT WILL ENABLE THE LEBANESE GOVERNMENT TO RESTORE STABILITY AND PEACE TO THE AREA. AS WE MEET IN THIS SPECIAL SESSION TO DEVELOP SOUND FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE UNITED NATIONS INTERIM FORCE IN LEBANON, IT IS WORTHWHILE TO TAKE STOCK BRIEFLY OF WHERE WE ARE AND WHAT WE HAVE DONE IN THE PAST MONTH.

MORE THAN 2,500 UNITED NATIONS TROOPS FROM SIX COUNTRIES ARE ON THE GROUND IN SOUTHERN LEBANON, WITH MANY MORE TO COME IN THE WEEKS AHEAD. WE ARE PLEASED THAT THE SECRETARY-GENERAL EXPECTS THAT THE FULL 4,000 FORESEEN ON MARCH 19 WILL BE DEPLOYED BY THE END OF APRIL. THOSE UN CONTINGENTS ALREADY IN PLACE, UNDER SMOOTH AND EFFECTIVE COMMAND ARRANGEMENTS, ARE CARRYING OUT THE RESPONSIBILITIES ASSIGNED TO THEM UNDER THE MANDATE PREPARED BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL AND APPROVED BY THE SECURITY COUNCIL. THE SPEED AND EFFICIENCY WITH WHICH UNIFIL HAS BEEN SET UP IS THE RESULT OF CLOSE COOPERATION BETWEEN THOSE DETERMINED TO SEE THIS IMPORTANT PEACEKEEPING OPERATION SUCCEED. WE NOTE THAT BOTH LEBANESE AND ISRAELI GOVERNMENTS HAVE COOPERATED MOST CLOSELY WITH UNIFIL. THE SECRETARY-GENERAL AND HIS ABLE STAFF IN NEW YORK HAVE CONTINUED THE TRADITION OF HIGH DEDICATION AND EFFECTIVENESS THAT HAS MARKED THEIR CONDUCT OF PREVIOUS PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS. THE UNCLASSIFIED

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GOVERNMENTS THAT CONTRIBUTED CONTINGENTS TO UNIFIL OFTEN MADE SACRIFICES AND SUFFERED INCONVENIENCES IN ORDER TO SEND TROOPS AND EQUIPMENT IN THE SHORTEST POSSIBLE TIME. OTHER COUNTRIES, INCLUDING MY OWN, HAVE CONTRIBUTED AIRLIFT AND OTHER SERVICES IN ORDER THAT THIS OPERATION MAY SUCCEED. PERHAPS MOST IMPORTANT IS THAT ALL CONCERNED IN THE MIDDLE EAST HAVE ACCEPTED SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS 425 AND 426, AND HAVE COMMITTED THEMSELVES TO COOPERATE FULLY WITH UNIFIL.

AS MEMBERS OF THIS ASSEMBLY ARE AWARE, THERE ARE SEVERAL IMPORTANT ELEMENTS IN RESOLUTION 425, WHICH WAS INTRODUCED BY MY GOVERNMENT. THE UNITED STATES IS DEEPLY COMMITTED TO THE FULL IMPLEMENTATION OF ALL ELEMENTS OF THE RESOLUTION. THE FIRST OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH OF RESOLUTION 425 "CALLS FOR STRICT RESPECT FOR THE TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY, SOVEREIGNTY AND POLITICAL INDEPENDENCE OF LEBANON WITHIN ITS INTERNATIONALLY RECOGNIZED BOUNDARIES." THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT THE LEBANESE GOVERNMENT, WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF UNIFIL, IS DETERMINED TO REASSERT ITS EFFECTIVE AUTHORITY IN THE SOUTH. WE MUST ALL DO WHAT WE CAN TO LEND SUPPORT TO THIS PROCESS.

THE SECOND OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH OF RESOLUTION 425
"CALLS UPON ISRAEL IMMEDIATELY TO CEASE ITS MILITARY
ACTION AGAINST LEBANESE TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY AND
WITHDRAW FORTHWITH ITS FORCES FROM ALL LEBANESE
TERRITORY." THIS IS AN UNAMBIGUOUS STATEMENT, AND MY
GOVERNMENT IS GRATIFIED THAT PRIME MINISTER BEGIN HAS
STATED THAT ISRAEL ACCEPTS RESOLUTION 425 IN ALL ITS
PARTS, AND WILL COMPLY WITH IT. ISRAEL HAS WITHDRAWN
SOME OF ITS ARMED FORCES FROM LEBANON, AND HAS
INDICATED TO THE SECRETARY GENERAL THAT IT WILL HAVE

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WITHDRAWN FROM APPROXIMATELY 65 PERCENT OF THE
TERRITORY THAT IT OCCUPIED BY APRIL 30. MY

GOVERNMENT EXPECTS THAT ISRAEL WILL, IN CONFORMITY WITH
PRIME MINISTER BEGIN'S COMMITMENT, RAPIDLY COMPLETE
THE FULL WITHDRAWAL OF ITS FORCES FROM ALL LEBANESE
TERRITORY.

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THE THIRD OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH OF THE RESOLUTION, WHICH
TAKES THE DECISION TO ESTABLISH UNIFIL, STATES THAT
ONE OF THE THREE PURPOSES OF THE FORCE IS "RESTORING
INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY"
IT IS OF COURSE ESSENTIAL TO THE ACHIEVEMENT OF THIS
PURPOSE THAT THERE BE NO REPETITION OF THE CIRCUMSTANCES
THAT INITIATED THE MOST RECENT CYCLE OF VIOLENCE IN
THE MIDDLE EAST. HERE TOO THERE IS REASON TO HOPE
THAT EFFORTS TO BRING PEACE TO THE MIDDLE EAST ARE
NEARER SUCCESS THAN THEY WERE A MONTH AGO.

MR. PRESIDENT, THE UNITED NATIONS HAS IN A REMARKABLY
SHORT TIME RESTORED PEACE -- A FRAGILE AND PRECARIOUS
PEACE TO BE SURE -- IN AN EXTRAORDINARILY DIFFICULT
AND UNSTABLE SITUATION. CERTAINLY PROBLEMS REMAIN TO
BE WORKED OUT. HOWEVER, THEY ARE BEING FACED IN A
SPIRIT OF GOOD WILL BY ALL CONCERNED, AND ARE FAR FROM
INSURMOUNTABLE. THIS SPECIAL SESSION OF THE GENERAL
ASSEMBLY HAS CARRIED OUT ITS RESPONSIBILITIES IN AN
EQUALLY CONSTRUCTIVE SPIRIT, AND IT HAS ACTED WITHOUT
DELAY TO PROVIDE FOR THE FINANCING OF UNIFIL IN AN
EQUITABLE AND BUSINESS-LIKE MANNER.

WE ARE EXTREMELY GRATIFIED THAT THE PRESIDENT AND GA
STAFF HAVE MAINTAINED THEIR HIGH LEVEL OF EFFICIENCY
AND PROVIDED US WITH THE LEADERSHIP AND DIPLOMATIC SKILL
TO END THIS POTENTIALLY DIFFICULT SESSION IN THE TWO
ALLOTTED DAYS. END TEXT. YOUNG

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